

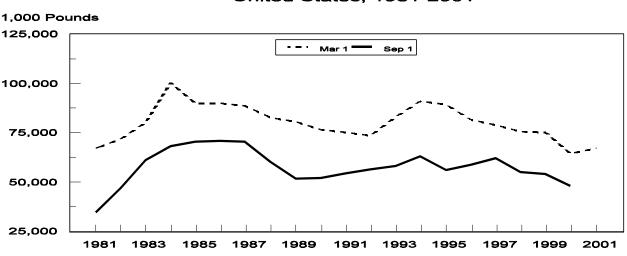


Released March 23, 2001, by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For information on "Hop Stocks" call Kim Ritchie at (360) 902-1940, office hours 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. PT.

March 1 Hop Stocks Up Over a Year Ago

The inventory of hops held by growers, dealers, and brewers on March 1, 2001, totaled 67.0 million pounds, 4 percent more than March 1, 2000, but 11 percent less than March 1, 1999. This level of stocks can be compared with record highs and lows for the last ten years, when the high was 90.9 million pounds for March 1, 1994, and the low was last March at 64.5 million pounds.

Stocks held by brewers, at 44.5 million pounds, rose 2 percent from a year ago, but dropped 11 percent from March 1, 1999. Stocks held by growers and dealers on March 1, 2001, totaled 22.5 million pounds, 7 percent more than stocks on hand for March 1, 2000, but 10 percent less than March 1, 1999.



Hop Stocks, March 1 and September 1 United States, 1981-2001

Hops: Stocks Held by Growers, Dealers, and Brewers, United States, 1998-2001

Stocks ¹	September 1			March 1		
	1998	1999	2000	1999	2000	2001
	1,000 Pounds					
Stocks Held by:						
Dealers/Growers Brewers	14,000 41,000	14,500 39,500	10,500 37,500	25,000 50,000	21,000 43,500	22,500 44,500
Total Stocks	55,000	54,000	48,000	75,000	64,500	67,000

¹ Includes equivalent pounds of dry hops held in form of extract or pellets.

The next "Hop Stocks" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on September 19, 2001.

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